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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/747,998

12/29/2003

Seishi Ohmori

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EXAMINER

MOREHEAD, JOHN H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2622

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/747,998

Applicant(s)

OHMORI ET AL.

Examiner

John Morehead

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 29 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 12-29-2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

3. Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sawachi US 20020030744 in view of No US 6587140.

4. Re claim 1, Sawachi discloses a digital camera (fig. 1 element 10) comprising: an optical system (fig. 1 element 20) which includes at least one lens (fig. 1 element 22) to optically process light from a source; an optoelectric converter (fig. 1 element 30) which converts the light from the optical system into an analog image signal; an analog-to-digital converter (fig. 1 element 32) which converts the analog image signal of the optoelectric converter into a digital image signal; a digital signal processor (fig. 1 element 60) which processes the digital image signal from the analog-to-digital

converter; and a communication interface (fig. 1 element 80) for a portable digital device, the portable digital device (fig. 1 element 13) including a user input unit (fig. 1 element 111), a display device (fig. 1 element 104), and a controller (fig. 1 element 63), and wherein a user input signal input through the user input unit of the portable digital device is processed by the digital signal processor (para 0070).

Sawachi teaches all the limitations above except wherein a digital image signal of the digital signal processor is displayed on the display device of the portable digital device. However No teaches a system and method for using a single intelligence circuit in both a digital camera and printer in which the card is a viewfinder, which displays the still frame (No, fig. 3 element 7 col. 5 lines 34-67 also col. 6 lines 1-15).

Therefore taking the combined teachings of Sawachi and No, as a whole, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Sawachi portable multi-function apparatus and controller to incorporate the features of No's intelligence circuit, to be able to remote control the digital camera, but also be able to view images from the portable digital device via the LCD screen located on the portable digital device (No, col. 2 lines 17-24).

Re claim 2, the combined teachings of Sawachi and No, as a whole, further teaches a digital camera of claim 1, wherein the digital image signal of the digital signal processor (Sawachi, fig. 1 element 60) is input to the controller (Sawachi, fig. 1 element 63) of the portable digital device (Sawachi, fig. 1 element 13) through the communication interface (Sawachi, fig. 1 element 80) and is controlled by the controller

of the portable digital device to be input to and displayed on the display device of the portable digital device (Sawachi, para 0063, 0064 and 0067)

Re claim 3, the combined teachings of Sawachi and No, as a whole, further teaches a digital camera of claim 1, wherein the user input signal is input through the user input unit (Sawachi, fig. 1 element 111) of the portable digital device (Sawachi, fig. 1 element 13) to the controller (Sawachi, fig. 1 element 63) of the portable digital device, transmitted to the digital signal processor (Sawachi, fig. 1 element 60) through the communication interface (Sawachi, fig. 1 element 80), and processed by the digital signal processor (Sawachi, para 0052).

Re claim 4, the combined teachings of Sawachi and No, as a whole, further teaches the digital camera of claim 1, further comprising a slot (Sawachi, fig. 4 element 138) into which the portable digital device (Sawachi, fig. 4 element 13) is inserted such that the communication interface is connected to a communication interface of the portable digital device when the portable digital device is inserted into the slot (Sawachi, para 0093).

Re claim 5, the combined teachings of Sawachi and No, as a whole, further teach the digital camera of claim 1, wherein the communication interface is a wireless communication interface (Sawachi, fig. 10, para 0102).

Re claim 6, the combined teachings of Sawachi and No, as a whole, further teaches the digital camera of claim 1, further comprising a means for storing digital data (Sawachi, fig. 1 element 76 para 0055, 0061 and 0067)

Re claim 7, the combined teachings of Sawachi and No, as a whole, further teaches the digital camera of claim 6, wherein the digital camera stores an audio signal input through a microphone of the portable digital device (Sawachi, fig. 1 element 130, para 0049 and para 0054).

Re claim 8, the combined teachings of Sawachi and No, as a whole, further teaches the digital camera of claim 6, wherein the storing means is a memory card (Sawachi, para 0055).

Re claim 9, the combined teachings of Sawachi and No, as a whole, further teach the digital camera of claim 1, wherein the portable digital device is able to operate the digital camera (Sawachi, fig. 10, para 0102).

Re claim 10, the combined teachings of Sawachi and No, as a whole, further teaches a digital camera and portable digital device system comprising: an optical system which includes at least one lens to optically process light from a source; an optoelectric converter which converts the light from the optical system into an analog image signal; an analog-to-digital converter which converts the analog image signal of

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the optoelectric converter into a digital image signal; a digital signal processor which processes the digital image signal from the analog-to-digital converter; a communication interface for a portable digital device; a user input unit; a display device; a controller; and a communication interface for a digital camera, wherein a digital image signal of the digital camera is displayed on the display device, and a user input signal input through the user input unit is processed by the digital camera (claim limitations have already been discussed and rejected, see claims 1 and 9).

Re claim 11, the combined teachings of Sawachi and No, as a whole, further teaches the system of claim 10, wherein the digital image signal of the digital camera is input to the controller through the communication interface and is controlled by the controller to be input to and displayed on the display device (claim limitation has already been discussed and rejected, see claim 2).

Re claim 12, the combined teachings of Sawachi and No, as a whole, further teaches the system of claim 10, wherein the user input signal is input through the user input unit to the controller and transmitted from the controller to the digital camera through the communication interface (claim limitation has already been discussed, see claim 3).

Re claim 13, the combined teachings of Sawachi and No, as a whole, further teaches the system of claim 10, wherein the portable digital device is inserted into a slot

of the digital camera so that the communication interface is connected to a communication interface of the digital camera (claim limitation has already been discussed and rejected, see claim 4).

Re claim 14, the combined teachings of Sawachi and No, as a whole, further teach the system of claim 10, wherein the communication interfaces are wireless communication interfaces (claim limitation has already been discussed and rejected, see claim 5).

Re claim 15, the combined teachings of Sawachi and No, as a whole, further teaches the system of claim 10, wherein the portable digital device reproduces an audio signal stored in the digital camera (Sawachi, para 0088 and para 0102).

Re claim 16, the combined teachings of Sawachi and No, as a whole, further teaches the system of claim 10, wherein the portable digital device reproduces an audio signal detected by the digital camera (Sawachi, fig. 1, also para 0067 para 0083).

Re claim 17, the combined teachings of Sawachi and No, as a whole, further teach the system of claim 10, wherein a user can use the portable digital device to operate the digital camera (claim limitation has already been discussed and rejected, see claim 9).


Contact

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Morehead whose telephone number is 571-270-1183. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday (alt) 7:30-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ngoc Yen Vu can be reached on 571-272-7320. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JM


NGOC-YEN VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER